

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 23 are amended. Claims 2, 3, and 13 are canceled without prejudice. New claim 31 is added. Claims 1, 4-12, and 14-31 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,519,046 to Kinjo (hereinafter "Kinjo"). Claims 2, 3, and 13 are canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejections of claims 2, 3, and 13 moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 4-12, and 14-30, as amended, are allowable over Kinjo.

Kinjo is directed to a printing method and system for making a print from a photo picture frame and a graphic image written by a user (see, Title, and col. 1, lines 9-14). A film scanner scans the image of each picture frame on photo film (see, col. 5, lines 13-20 and 32-36). Words written by the user are obtained from the user and synthesized with the image data of the designated picture frames (see, col. 6, lines 26-38). The synthetic image data is then sent to a digital printer, which produces a hard copy of the picture frame synthesized with the words (see, col. 6, lines 38-55). Kinjo also discusses that any graphic image written by the user, illustrations and drawings, can be synthesized with the photographic image in the same way as for words (see, col. 10, lines 1-6).

In contrast, amended claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:
receiving, at a printing device, an input print media;

stamping, in response to a request from a user to stamp routing information on the input print media, the input media with routing information, wherein stamping the input media with routing information comprises printing the routing information on the input print media; and

printing, if no request from the user to stamp routing information on the input print media is received, other content on the input print media, wherein the other content is received from a remote device.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose the receiving, stamping, and printing of amended claim 1.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate claim 2. In the December 29 Office Action, it was asserted that, regarding claim 2, "Kinjo discloses printing the routing information (user ID number) on the input print media (column 11, lines 41-49)." Applicant respectfully disagrees with this characterization of Kinjo and respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose printing routing information on the print media.

The cited portion of Kinjo (column 11, lines 41-49) discusses a user ID number being kept and used as the film ID number throughout the printing because the cartridge ID number is not readable from the film unit during photography. However, nowhere does Kinjo discuss printing this user ID number on an input print media. Merely stating that the user ID number may be used throughout the printing does not disclose that the user ID number is actually printed on an input print media. Kinjo does disclose that the word data can be recorded on the magnetic recording layer of a filmstrip (see, col. 11, lines 62-66), but this word data is the words written by the user (see, col. 10, lines 58-60), not the user ID number. As discussed above, Kinjo also discloses that words or a graphic image written by the user can be synthesized with a picture frame and a hardcopy thereof produced by the digital printer, but

again this is words or a graphic image written by the user, not the user ID number.

It is also noted that Kinjo discusses hard copies of samples being printed out so that the user can handwrite words directly in the image samples (see, Figs. 2A & 2B, and col. 5, line 49 – col. 6, line 19). These hard copies can include a printed user ID number (see, Figs. 2A & 2B). However, these hard copies cannot be the input print media of amended claim 1 because they are not received at the printing device as recited in amended claim 1, and there is no printing on these hard copies of other content if no request from the user to stamp routing information is received as recited in amended claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is allowable over Kinjo.

With respect to claim 6, claim 6 depends from amended claim 1 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is allowable over Kinjo for the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 1. Furthermore, claim 6 recites:

A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
generating a stamped electronic copy of the input print media by obtaining an electronic copy of the input print media and adding the routing information to the electronic copy of the input print media; and
communicating the stamped electronic copy to a remote device.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose the generating and communicating of claim 6.

Column 9, lines 15-44 of Kinjo are cited in the December 29 Office Action as disclosing the generating and communicating of claim 6. This cited portion of Kinjo discusses the words that are written by the user, not the user ID number, and, as discussed above with respect to amended claim 1, the user

ID number discussed in Kinjo is being relied on in the December 29 Office Action as disclosing the routing information. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no mention or discussion in Kinjo of generating a stamped electronic copy of input print media by obtaining an electronic copy of the input print media and adding the user ID number to the electronic copy of the input print media, much less of communicating that stamped electronic copy to a remote device. Without such mention or discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo cannot disclose generating a stamped electronic copy of the input print media by obtaining an electronic copy of the input print media and adding the routing information to the electronic copy of the input print media, and communicating the stamped electronic copy to a remote device as recited in claim 6.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 4, 5, and 7-9 depend from amended claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4, 5, and 7-9 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 1.

With respect to amended claim 10, amended claim 10 recites:

A system comprising:
 a print module configured to output a document having particular content thereon;
 a tracking module coupled to the print module and configured to identify, in response to a received request to stamp information on the document, the information to be stamped on the document and to communicate the identified information to the print module; and
 wherein the print module is configured to output the document with the identified information stamped thereon in addition to any other content already on the document, and to generate a stamped electronic copy of the document, wherein the

stamped electronic copy of the document includes the identified information as well as any other content already on the document, and to communicate the stamped electronic copy to a remote device.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose a system including a print module and a tracking module as recited in amended claim 10.

Claim 10 has been amended to incorporate claim 13. In the December 29 Office Action, Kinjo at column 9, lines 15-44 was cited as disclosing claim 13. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The cited portion of Kinjo discusses a synthetic-print ordering form. The synthetic-print ordering form can be sent through personal computers, and a hard copy of the synthetic-print ordering form is made through a printer that is connected to the personal computer (see, col. 9, lines 1-19). Words can be written on the hard copy of the ordering form, in which case the hard copy of the ordering form filled with words is scanned through an image scanner that is connected to the personal computer, so the scanned data of the synthetic-print ordering paper is transferred to the photofinisher (see, col. 9, lines 19-24). The photofinisher then extracts data of the words from the received data (see, col. 9, lines 24-26). Thus, this cited portion of Kinjo is directed to a synthetic-print ordering paper, which is the paper that the photofinisher uses to obtain the words written by the user, and is not directed to the synthetic image itself.

The synthetic-print ordering paper cannot be the document of amended claim 10 because it does not satisfy all of the elements of amended claim 10. If the synthetic-print ordering paper of Kinjo were to be the document of amended claim 10, then Kinjo would need to disclose a tracking module configured to identify the information to be stamped on the synthetic-print ordering paper and to communicate the identified information to the print module, and a print module configured to output the synthetic-print ordering

paper with the identified information stamped thereon in addition to any other content already on the synthetic-print ordering paper, and also to generate a stamped electronic copy of the synthetic-print ordering paper (wherein the stamped electronic copy of the synthetic-print ordering paper includes the identified information as well as any other content already on the synthetic-print ordering paper) and communicate the stamped electronic copy to a remote device. As there is no mention or discussion in Kinjo of such a tracking module and such a print module, Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo cannot disclose the system of amended claim 10.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 10 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 11 and 12 depend from amended claim 10, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11 and 12 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 10.

With respect to amended claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding amended claim 10, Kinjo does not disclose stamping the input media with routing information, generating a stamped electronic copy of the input print media, wherein the stamped electronic copy of the input print media includes the routing information as well as any other content already on the input print media, and communicating the stamped electronic copy of the input print media to a remote device as recited in amended claim 14. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 14 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 15-17 depend from amended claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-17 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 14.

With respect to amended claim 18, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Kinjo does not disclose a tracking module to identify, in response to a stamp command, routing information to be automatically stamped on the print media, and a print module, coupled to receive the identified routing information from the tracking module and to print the identified routing information on the print media as the stamp if the stamp command has been received, and otherwise, if the stamp command has not been received, to print, on the print media, other content received from a remote source as recited in amended claim 18. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 18 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 19-21 depend from amended claim 18, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-21 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 18.

With respect to amended claim 22, amended claim 22 recites:

A system comprising:

a print module configured to output a piece of paper having particular content thereon;

a scan module configured to scan an input piece of paper and generate an electronic copy of the input piece of paper, wherein the electronic copy represents the content of the input piece of paper;

a tracking module coupled to the print module and configured to identify, in response to a request for information to be stamped on a piece of paper, the information to be stamped on the piece of paper and to communicate the identified information to the print module; and

wherein the print module is configured to receive both the electronic copy of the input piece of paper from the scan module and the identified information from the tracking module, and to output a stamped hardcopy of the input piece of paper including the content from the input piece of paper as well as the identified information.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose a system as recited in amended claim 22.

Kinjo, as discussed above, describes a film scanner that scans the image of each picture frame on photo film, and produces a hard copy of the picture frame synthesized with words written by the user. However, there is no discussion or mention in Kinjo of a piece of paper being scanned and a stamped hardcopy of the input piece of paper including the content from the input piece of paper as well as identified information to be stamped on the piece of paper as recited in amended claim 22. Kinjo is directed to working with photo film and information recorded on the magnetic recording layer of photo film, not other media.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 22 is allowable over Kinjo.

With respect to claim 23, claim 23 depends from amended claim 22 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 23 is allowable over Kinjo for the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 22. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the discussion above regarding amended claim 10, Kinjo does not disclose a print module configured to generate a stamped electronic copy by combining the electronic copy of the input piece of paper and the identified information from the tracking module, and to send the electronic copy of the input piece of paper to a remote device as recited in claim 23. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 23 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 24 and 25 depend from amended claim 22, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 24 and 25 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 22.

With respect to claim 26, claim 26 recites:

A method comprising:
receiving an input document;
scanning the input document to generate an electronic copy of the input document;
adding a stamp to the electronic copy, the stamp comprising routing information for the document;
printing the stamped electronic copy of the document to generate a hard copy of the document with the stamp;
communicating the stamped electronic copy of the document to another device; and
outputting the input document without additional printing thereon.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kinjo does not disclose the method of claim 26.

In the method of claim 26, an input document is received and scanned to generate an electronic copy of the input document, and a stamp is added to the electronic copy. In the method of claim 26, three different outputs result: (1) a hard copy of the document with the stamp is printed; (2) the stamped electronic copy of the document is communicated to another device; and (3) the input document without additional printing thereon is output. Applicant respectfully submits that such a method, resulting in three different outputs, is not disclosed in Kinjo.

As discussed above, Kinjo discloses that words or a graphic image written by the user can be synthesized with a picture frame and a hardcopy thereof produced by the digital printer. However, there is no discussion or mention in Kinjo of also outputting an electronic copy of the synthetic image to another device.

Applicant notes that Kinjo also discusses sending a synthetic-print ordering form through personal computers, and a hard copy of the synthetic-print ordering form is made through a printer that is connected to the personal

computer (see, col. 9, lines 1-19). Words can be written on the hard copy of the ordering form, in which case the hard copy of the ordering form filled with words is scanned through an image scanner that is connected to the personal computer, so the scanned data of the synthetic-print ordering paper is transferred to the photofinisher (see, col. 9, lines 19-24). The photofinisher then extracts data of the words from the received data (see, col. 9, lines 24-26). This discussion in Kinjo is directed to a synthetic-print ordering paper, which is the paper that the photofinisher uses to obtain the words written by the user, and is not directed to the synthetic image itself. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that this discussion in Kinjo does not disclose outputting an electronic copy of the synthetic image to another device.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 26 is allowable over Kinjo.

Given that claims 27-30 depend from claim 26, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27-30 are likewise allowable over Kinjo for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 26.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claim 31 has been added.

With respect to new claim 31, new claim 31 depends from claim 26 and Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 31 is allowable over the cited references for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 26. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose a method as recited in claim 26, wherein the input document comprises one or more sheets of paper as recited in new claim 31. For at least

these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 31 is allowable over the cited references.

Conclusion

Claims 1, 4-12, and 14-31 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

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